

CLASSIFICATION

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Doeberitz Airfield

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OF PREP

PREPARED 20 April 1955

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PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. Between 1 and 25 February 1955, observations were made at the Richthofen Barracks at Doeberitz. The barracks were just a few miles from the city of Berlin. Soldiers seen were light-blue overalls and dark boots with light-colored vertical propeller-shaped insignia. Training consisted of manual exercises and theoretical instruction. There was small-scale basic training daily, usually without carbines, by groups of 6 to 8 men each and also by platoons of about 35 men in addition to athletics. During manual training, soldiers received instruction as locksmiths, mechanics, mechanics specialized in high precision work, lathe operators, milling cutters, carpenters and saddlers. The workshops were equipped with various machinery including benches, lathes, planing benches, milling and boring machines, autogenous welding equipment, etc. Electrical welding equipment were not observed. Each soldier apparently received some training in all of the crafts mentioned and subsequently received special training in the field for which he appeared most qualified. In addition to the workshops, there was a chemical laboratory, presumably for analyses of all kinds, and a photo laboratory. Mechanics were trained in the basement of building No 16 where workshops and class rooms were also located. Motor vehicle and aircraft engines and truck chassis were continuously disassembled and reassembled there. Demonstration charts with motor vehicle and aircraft engines and their individual parts were seen in the instruction rooms. From the fact that part of this material was obsolete and rather primitive it was inferred that initial training was given at this school. There were only a few trucks apparently assigned to the unit. An average of 10 ZIS trucks were seen. During the reported period, no incoming or outgoing shipments were observed. On 22 February, 3 new Soviet trucks were seen in the yard of the barracks installation. The two latter trucks mounted one searchlight 1 meter in diameter.

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2. Between 1 and 26 February, the following observations were made at the NSKK Kaserne:

The strength of the unit stationed at this installation was apparently larger than that of the unit stationed in Richthofen Kaserne. The soldiers also wore light-blue epaulets. They also mainly received manual training and theoretical instruction, but training in the NSKK Kaserne was apparently in an advanced stage. The soldiers were on the average 2 to 3 years older. Part of the workshops for training was located at the airfield. Groups of 20 to 30 soldiers were daily seen marching from the barracks installation toward these workshops. Basic training and athletics were daily held.

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the unit in the NSKK Kaserne was a combat unit while a school was stationed in the Richthofen Kaserne.

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the German workers in the NSKK Kaserne received considerably more and larger quantities. the NSKK Kaserne housed a combat unit which was allotted more material than the school stationed at the Richthofen Kaserne. 1

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3. The following observations were made at Doeberitz airfield: Between 15 and 26 February, there was no air activity. Three to four railroad tank cars were repeatedly seen on the spur track just south of Hamburger Chaussee. These tank cars contained gasoline for the fuel dump, about 200 meters south of Hamburger Chaussee and 200 meters east of the western boundary of the field. The fuel dump consisted of a northern and southern section. In the northern section, which measured 100 x 100 meters, gasoline containers were stored under roofs. Underground fuel tanks were located in the southern section. 2

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1. Comment. The observations indicate that initial technical training is held in the Richthofen Kaserne and specialized technical training in the NSKK Kaserne.

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2. Comment. The fuel was presumably for use by the ground attack regiment which, in mid-March 1955, temporarily transferred to Doeberitz airfield and participated in exercises by the Soviet Army.

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